

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Dalton et al.

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Filing Date: Concurrently herewith

For: FORMATION OF LOW RESISTANCE VIA CONTACTS IN
INTERCONNECT STRUCTURES

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Customer No.: 22032

Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Attorney Docket: YOR920030247US1

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 223131450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, please find attached hereto form PTO-1449 listing information which may be material to the patentability of this application, filed concurrently herewith. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed:

- XXX Within three (3) months of the filing date of the national application;
- _____ Within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application;
- _____ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits;
- _____ After the filing date or date of first Office Action, but before the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, provided that this occurs prior to the issuance of a Notice of Allowance and provided that this I.D.S. is accompanied by either a certification as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p);

_____ After the filing date or date of first Office Action, but before the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, provided that this occurs prior to the final action and provided that this I.D.S. is accompanied by either a certification as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p);

_____ After the mailing date of a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, provided that this occurs prior to the issuance of a Notice of Allowance and provided that this I.D.S. is accompanied by either a certification as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), a petition requesting consideration of the I.D.S., and the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1); and

_____ After the mailing date of a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, provided that this occurs prior to the issuance of a final action and provided that this I.D.S. is accompanied by either a certification as specified in 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), a petition requesting consideration of the I.D.S., and the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1).

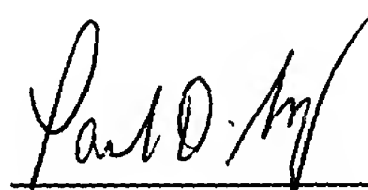
Cited in the attached PTO-1449 are U.S. Patent Nos. 6,441,491; 6,479,110; and 6,312,793. Pursuant to the waiving of the requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of these U.S. references are not enclosed.

It should be understood that attention has been called to the references that have been deemed to be pertinent to the claimed present invention. In concluding what was pertinent, the criteria employed was considered most appropriate in light of the invention shown in the present application. However, the Examiner or others may deem some other criteria to be just as appropriate or more appropriate. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully urged to review the listed references and to make the usual careful independent search for other prior art that may be pertinent.

Respectfully submitted,

September 19, 2003

Date



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